

What is claimed is:

1. A SCR-based protection clamp for protecting a node of a circuit against ESD events, comprising
 - 5 a SCR with separately connected drain contact and emitter contact in which the drain and emitter contacts are connected to the node but the drain contact is connected to the node through a triggering control circuit.
 2. A clamp of claim 1, wherein the triggering control circuit includes a delay circuit to delay a voltage pulse to the drain contact.
 - 10 3. A clamp of claim 2, wherein the delay circuit includes an RC circuit.
 4. A clamp of claim 3, further including at least one inverter between the RC circuit and the SCR.
 5. A clamp of claim 4, wherein the at least one inverter comprises an even number of inverters, and the RC circuit includes a resistor connected to the node and a capacitor connected to ground.
 - 15 6. A clamp of claim 4, wherein the at least one inverter comprises an odd number of inverters, and the RC circuit includes a capacitor connected to the node and a resistor connected to ground.
 7. A method of controlling the triggering of a SCR that includes a cathode and an anode, the anode being defined by a drain contact and an emitter contact, comprising
 - 20 controlling the respective times at which a voltage pulse applied across the anode and cathode is applied to the drain and emitter contacts.
 8. A method of claim 7, wherein the controlling of the respective times at which the voltage pulse is applied to the drain and emitter contacts, includes delaying the voltage pulse to the drain contact using a delay circuit.
 - 25 9. A method of claim 8, wherein the voltage pulse is delayed relative to the emitter contact.

10. A method of claim 9, wherein the voltage pulse is delayed by means of an RC circuit.

11. A method of claim 10, further comprising providing a high input impedance to the SCR as seen by the RC circuit.

5 12. A method of claim 11, wherein the providing of a high input impedance includes providing at least one inverter between the RC circuit and the SCR.

13. A method of claim 12, wherein providing at least one inverter includes providing an even number of inverters.

10 14. A method of claim 12, wherein providing the even number of inverters comprises providing two inverters.

15 15. A method of claim 12, wherein providing at least one inverter includes providing an odd number of inverters.

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